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BULLETIN OF THE METROPOLITAN
MUSEUM OF ART
VOLUME XVII, NUMBER 7
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A NOTABLE GIFT FROM
GEORGE F. BAKER

AT the meeting of the Trustees held on May 31, 1922, the following letter from George F. Baker, a member of the Board since 1909, was read:

"I desire to donate to the Metropolitan Museum of Art one million (\$1,000,000) dollars to constitute an Endowment Fund, the principal of which is to be kept intact, the income to be used for its corporate purposes."

This splendid gift was accepted by the Trustees in the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the Trustees of The Metropolitan Museum of Art express to their fellow-trustee, George F. Baker, their deep appreciation of this munificent and timely gift. Coming as it does from one of their own number, long in service and familiar for many years with the policy and administration of the Museum, it carries

with it an approval of that policy and administration and is, therefore, especially gratifying. It is all the more gratifying because it comes from one whose judgment and discrimination deservedly carry great weight in the community.

Moreover, the form in which this gift is made, by safeguarding the principal but without restriction as to the application of income, is such as to make it most beneficial to the Museum at this time when freedom in the disposition of income is so important to make the Museum of greatest service to the public in the cause of art.

Mr. Baker's associates trust that in making this gift he will personally have the same degree of satisfaction which his fellow-trustees, with the aid of his judgment, will have in applying it to those Museum purposes which from time to time are most important.

RECOGNITION FOR MODERN
ART

THE year 1922 has been made memorable by a succession of splendid gifts. Among these noteworthy evidences of personal interest in the Museum and approval of its plans and purposes comes the following letter from Edward C. Moore, Jr., that has just given the President and Trustees of the Metropolitan Museum another thrill of pleasure. This is a gift to the Museum from the second generation. Mr. Moore is a son of the late Edward C. Moore, of Tiffany & Company, one of the earliest and most notable benefactors, whose memorial collection now exhibited in the Museum evidences the catholicity and exquisite quality of his taste. The letter reads,

"Provided that you deem it desirable, I would like to give to the Museum the \$10,000 enclosed with which to buy from time to time as opportunity offers, examples (of only the very finest quality) of the modern decorative arts of America and Europe.

"If this gift is accepted by you for the above purpose, I hope to give to the Museum for the same purpose a like sum yearly until the total thus given by me shall amount to \$50,000 or more.

"It would of course be understood that

the Museum would be perfectly free to group or scatter objects so bought as it wished; to exhibit or store them; and to sell or exchange them should they prove hereafter to be undesirable possessions.

"In case the Trustees do not consider that these purchases of examples of modern decorative arts would be desirable, I would ask you at any rate to accept the enclosed sum for the purchase of such objects as would surely be acceptable to the Museum, such as very fine old examples of the arts of the Near East."

At a special meeting the Trustees accepted this generous gift in the words of the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That The Metropolitan Museum of Art gratefully accepts the generous gift of \$10,000 offered by Edward C. Moore, Jr., for modern decorative art, upon the terms set forth in his letter of June 16, 1922, and agrees to apply this gift, and any future possible additions foreshadowed in his letter, for the purposes therein described. The Museum especially welcomes this gift which comes at a time when it has planned to give modern decorative art its proper relation to other forms of modern art by a special exhibition, to the success of which this gift will make an important contribution.

AN APPROPRIATION FOR WING K

THE daily press has already reported the gratifying action of the Board of Estimate of the City at a recent meeting in appropriating \$1,000,000 for the Museum, of which \$950,000 is for the completion of the south wing, known as Wing K, including the finishing, furnishing, and equipping of thirty galleries and a number of basement rooms, and \$50,000 for exhibition cases and other needed equipment.

This appropriation was made possible by an act of the Legislature of the State of New York to amend the Greater New York charter in relation to use of the proceeds

of bond issues, which was passed on April 6, 1922. This permitted the City of New York to expend part of the proceeds of sales of corporate stock or serial bonds for the erection and equipment of the buildings of The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The erection of Wing K occurred in 1914 and 1915; but as the appropriation then did not prove sufficient for the finishing of the interior and war conditions made a new appropriation impracticable, the extension has remained unoccupied by the Museum. It is a genuine satisfaction that this part of the Museum building can now be made ready for occupancy. It will provide the permanent place of installation for the Altman Collection, bequeathed to the Museum by Benjamin Altman in 1913. In the temporary badly crowded galleries which this rich collection has occupied, its value has been evident; in a more advantageous setting it will be greatly enhanced. By the removal of the Cesnola Collection of Cypriote antiquities to rooms on the first floor of this latest wing, the classical collections to which it forms an introduction will be shown in a continuous suite of rooms. In all, thirty new galleries, as well as a good deal of necessary office space, will be available, and the rearrangement of the older galleries made possible in this way promises an improved installation of many collections that should be a pleasure to all who come to the Museum.

A BEQUEST AND A GIFT

IN the will of Amos F. Eno, who died in 1915, the Museum was named as a legatee to the amount of \$250,000; but during the past seven years the will has been contested. Through the recent settlement of the litigation the Museum will receive not only the entire principal of the legacy, \$250,000, but a substantial amount of accumulated interest.

Clarence H. Mackay has generously given \$6,000 to the Museum for use in the Department of Arms and Armor.